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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 CU-04 USIA-15 CIAE-00

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R 141608Z JUN 74
FM USMISSION BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3526
AMEMBASSY BONN
INFO AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 1011

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SAID, SCUL, CB, GE, GW, AU, CZ, TH
SUBJECT: KHMER STUDENTS IN GDR

REF: (A) BONN 9441, (B) STATE 114660 (C) PHNOMPENH 7770

1. ON JUNE 13 MISSION OFFICER CONTACTED PONG KIM KOAN, CULTURAL ATTACHE AT GKR EMBASSY TO GDR, TO REQUEST FURTHER INFORMATION ON KHMER STUDENTS PRESENTLY IN GDR WHO WISH TO CONTINUE THEIR STUDIES IN WEST. PONG CONFIRMED THAT THERE ARE 50 STUDENTS IN THIS CATEGORY, FOR WHOM TEN SCHOLARSHIPS HAD BEEN OFFERED BY FRG, FOUR BY SWITZERLAND, AND THREE BY AUSTRIA. RECENTLY, PONG AND SUPERVISORS AT GKR EMBASSY IN BERN HAD COLLABORATED IN DESIGNATING PARTICULAR STUDENTS TO BE PROPOSED FOR THESE SEVENTEEN SCHOLARSHIPS, BUT THUS FAR NONE HAD BEEN FINALLY APPROVED. REMAINING 33 STUDENTS HAVE BEEN LUMPED TOGETHER AS CANDIDATES FOR POSSIBLE SCHOLARSHIPS IN US. PONG COULD NOT, INCIDENTALLY, PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION ON ABSENCE TO DATE OF APPLICATION PAPERS FOR FIVE OF TEN STUDENTS DESIGNATED FOR FRG SCHOLARSHIPS (PARA 1, REFTEL A).

2. PONG PROVIDED MISSION OFFICER WITH INDIVIDUAL DATA SHEETS
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ON 33 STUDENTS WHOM KHERS WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE FOR US

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SCHOLARSHIPS, AS WELL AS LIST INDICATING LEVEL OF STUDIES
OF ALL 50 STUDENTS PRESENTLY IN GDR. COPIES OF THESE DOCUMENTS
BEING POUCHED DEPARTMENT (CU/WE) AND USIS BONN. AS FAR
AS PONG AWARE, NONE OF 33 STUDENTS IN QUESTION HAS MUCH
FACILITY IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

3. ON SUBJECT OF HIS OWN STATUS IN EAST BERLIN, PONG SAID
THAT GDR AUTHORITIES SEEMED CONTENT TO LEAVE HIM ALONE AND
ALLOWED HIM TO COME AND GO AS HE PLEASED. HE HAD, OF COURSE,
NO OFFICIAL CONTACTS WITH GOVERNMENT. PONG SAID HE WAS IN
REGULAR CONTACT WITH KHMER EMBASSY IN BERN THROUGH BIWEEKLY
DIPLOMATIC POUCH.

4. PONG RELATED THAT TEIP SIPHAN, ONE OF TWO KHMER DIPLOMATS
IN EAST BERLIN REPORTED AT ONE TIME TO DEFECTED T GRUNK,
HAD RECENTLY RETURNED TO PHNOM PENH. OTHER ALLEGED DEFECTOR,
KHIEU THAIM, REMAINED IN EAST BERLIN IN UNCLEAR STATUS.
KHIEU HAD REFUSED GRUNK ORDER TO LEAVE BERLIN FOR PEKING;
HE HAD ALSO DECLINED TO FOLLOW RECENT GKR INSTRUCTION
TO TURN OVER SEALS, CAR, AND OTHER EMBASSY ASSETS TO PONG.KLEIN

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